

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-12 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1-12. (Cancelled)

Claim 13. (Original) A method for improving the nutritional value of an animal feed, comprising adding to the animal feed at least one acid-stable protease which has an amino acid sequence having an identity of at least 70% to SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 14. (Original). The method of claim 13, wherein the dosage of the protease is 0.01-200 mg protease enzyme protein per kg animal feed.

Claim 15. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the protease has an amino acid sequence having an identity of at least 75% to SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the protease has an amino acid sequence having an identity of at least 80% to SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the protease has an amino acid sequence having an identity of at least 85% to SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the protease has an amino acid sequence having an identity of at least 90% to SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the protease has an amino acid sequence having an identity of at least 95% to SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 20. (Original) A method for improving the nutritional value of a vegetable protein, comprising adding at least one acid-stable protease to the vegetable protein or protein source, wherein the protease comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the vegetable protein source comprises soybean.

Claim 22. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the protease has an amino acid sequence having an identity of at least 75% to SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the protease has an amino acid sequence having an identity of at least 80% to SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 24. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the protease has an amino acid sequence having an identity of at least 85% to SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 25. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the protease has an amino acid sequence having an identity of at least 90% to SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the protease has an amino acid sequence having an identity of at least 95% to SEQ ID NO: 1.